# The Caledonian Mercury.

*Edinburgh, Monday, December 28, 1730.*


*From the Universal Spectator, Dec. 19.*

*De nobis facile est, scelus est jugulare Falernum.* Mart.

THE great Power and Prevalence of *Custom*, and the manifest good and bad Influence it has upon the Constitutions, as well as the Morals of Men, should be a standing and everlasting Maxim and Reason with us, at all Times, diligently and carefully to encourage and support every good and laudable Motive we find in ourselves, and to subdue and root out every dangerous and malignant one in its first Rise. Thus shall we insensibly introduce and fix in our Hearts, an easy, familiar, and regular Method of doing well, and cannot long fail of finding the comfortable and wholesome Consequence of them both, in our Lives and Conversations. Our Passions are weak and manageable in their Minority, and may be easily kept under and governed, if they be taken early, and in Time; but if thro' Negligence or Inadvertency, they be once suffered to get a-head, they will soon wriggle and work themselves into our Dispositions, and become so essential a Part of our Constitution, as that it will be most difficult, and perhaps impossible, ever to discharge ourselves of them. This is so notorious, that he is esteem'd to have led a Life to very little Purpose in the World, who does not observe, that it is much easier to subdue the Passions of the *Child*, than to put off the *Old Man* with his Iniquities.

Among the many Infirmities that lead us to bad Courses, there are two which we cannot be too carefully on our Guard against, *viz. Cowardice* and *Idleness*. Few young People have Power and Courage to resist the Temptation and Force of *Example*; they not only, at first, run into the Practice, with some Violence too, and against Conviction, but are also awed and overbore into it, from a meer Dread of becoming *singular*: That vicious Complaisance, which drives us to do as others do, is infinitely pernicious to Society, and has insensibly led Mankind, by degrees, into unsurmountable Errors and Inconveniencies, to the fatally impairing of both Health and Wealth of numberless Families, and to the Bane and Destruction of every thing that is virtuous, orderly and praise worthy. And as *Idleness* may justly be called *the Root of all Evil*; so *Industry* may be defin'd *the Foundation of what is truly good*, as it directs us in a regular Employment of Body and Mind in useful and proper Objects, and thereby prevents the many dangerous and unhappy Consequences attending People out of Business, and whose Time lies heavy on their Hand: When and wherever these Chasms of Life are found, a thousand little Irregularities and Impertinencies are continually flowing in to fill 'em up; and taking Possession of the Mind, produce in it such a Degree of Sloth and Indolence, as to prepare them to bring forth Iniquity, and become the proper and natural Parent of Sin and Folly. As I know no Custom more idle, so is there none more destructive, in Nature and Consequence, than a Habit, which the World is now generally got into, whereby they go about to impair a *real*, in order to create a *false* Appetite; I mean, the foolish and pernicious Custom of *Whetting*: The Vacuities in Business betwixt the Hours of 11 & 1, has brought an Inundation of Poverty and Diseases on the Nation, ruined many in one Year, and sent infinite Numbers of others, untimely, to the Grave.

Sir *Simon Swilstate*, my Neighbour, has ruin'd a very strong Constitution by this Practice; he has been often patch'd up by his Physicians; but he no sooner finds himself a little recover'd, but he returns to his Iniquity, till at last he has brought himself to Death's Door. He is sent to the Country, put under a proper Regimen, and hath Asses Milk prescribed him; but, without the exrtaordinary Blessing of Heaven, his Friends despair and give him over. Sir *Simon* has all the Zeal and Spirit of a Martyr: A short Life and a merry, has been long his favourite and standing Maxim; the Heathen makes a Jest of Christian Sobriety, with the Poison at his Lips; and having magnanimously swallowed it, he makes an Oblation in a second Glass to *Bacchus* the Deliverer. I knew when he could have ate a Pound and an half of pure Meat at a Meal, with much Pleasure and Appetite; but the Pains and Expence he has been at to mend his Stommach, for 3 Years and an half past, hath brought it so low, that now he cannot so much as bear the Sight of a Joint of Meat: He who ordinarily would have swallowed down a good Barn-door Fowl with Apurtenances,

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in 15 Minutes, cannot now manage more than the Breaſt of a Pigeon, or the Peſtle of a Lark, in 24 Hours; and ſo capricious is his Taſte in Eating, that a Bit from the Spit, occaſionally met with in his Morning Round, will go down ſometimes when nothing elſe will. His Appetite is now rather to be humoured than ſatisfied; his chief Suſtenance for theſe 12 Months has been merely caſual, being either a Pilfer from a Gridiron or Dripping-pan, as he met with in his Walks; and this to ſtimulate his Palate, and gratify a peryerſe and falſe Inclination. You ſhall ſee this Epicure in a Tavern-Kitchen of a Morning, pidling over the Aughes and Remnants of the laſt Day's Dinner, ſcraping the Bones of a Sirloin, or ſcooping out a Reliſher from the Hulk of a Cheſhire cheeſe, to point and provoke his Taſte, and to perſwade his Stomach the more kindly to receive t'other *Gill*; then he goes home, behaves peeviſhly at the Head of a well-ſpread Table, and in high Diſtemper, nauſeates and loaths every thing laid before him. He is grown ſallow and bloated; his Memory fails, he ſpeaks inwardly, his Hands ſhake, his Legs ſwell: In ſhort, he is (as it were) ripe for Deſtruction; and one may venture to affirm, without any Degree of Foreſight, that he'll go near to drop next Spring.

As it is injurious to drink Wine upon an empty Stomach, ſo it is more particularly miſchievous, to drink Drams of any Kind: The more ſpirituous and inflammatory any Liquor is, the more dangerous it is to indulge in it: This is making ſhorter Work of it yet, and riding Poſt with a Witneſs, it impoveriſhes the Mind, weakens the Body, and produces and brings into the World a beggarly, feeble and infirm Generation; and is the Occaſion of our ſo often ſeeing ſuch numberleſs Objects of Pity and Deriſion about our Streets for ſome Years paſt. As theſe, in their different Natures, are real and proper Objects of Pity and Commiſeration, ſo they preſent to my View another Set of Criminals, who call for our higheſt Reſentment, as they are the Inſtruments in furthering this kind of Deſtruction.

*Tim. Daſh* died about the 40 Year of his Age, and left ſo large an Eſtate to his Family, that all are ſurpaized who knew his Beginning, and the ſhort Time he had in Trade to acquire it: Suggeſtions were various, but all foreign to the Occaſion, the World not having Penetration enough to look into the dark & myſterious Iniquity practiſed by him. *Tim.* dealt in prick'd and decay'd Wines, and was the firſt Vintner who encouraged the Importation of *Benecarlos* among us; he had the Faculty of nicely *brewing* and *mixing* up theſe together, and of infuſing a certain Compoſition, ſo as to vitiate and deceive the Palate and revive and bring them to a Standard ſomething natural. This is the true Secret of his Riches, and of his Death, where there were ſome Appearances of a Judgment; he being carried off ſuddenly by a violent Fever, occaſioned by his taking too large a Doſe of his own Commodity upon the Fret.

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*Wye's Letter Verbatim, London, Decem. 22.*

*Since our laſt arrived the Mails from Holland, France and Flanders.*

THE two Ships which ſailed laſt Year for St. David's Streights, having met with better Succeſs than thoſe that went to Greenland, the S. S. Company have ordered their Number to be increaſed to ſeven, and be ready to ſail thither by the 1ſt of February next, which is three Weeks ſooner than the uſual Time. 'Tis wiſhed, that the good News mentioned in our laſt to be written in a Letter from Seville, of the 1ſt Inſt. N. S. may be confirmed; mean time, the Letters from Cadiz, of the 5th Inſt. relate, that they had not yet any Apperance of the Effects of the Flota being ſoon delivered. They write from Plymouth, that on Friday laſt arrived there the *Betty Galley* from Cadiz, for Oſtend; and that the Maſter thereof gave an Account, that 8000 Spaniards were at Work on the Trenches before Gibraltar, from whence we ſee a Letter, publiſhed to day, of the 28th paſt, adviſing, That the Preparations of the Spaniards gave them Room to ſuſpect, that they have a Deſign to beſiege that Place again, having formed a Trench, with Angles from Sea to Sea; alſo, at the Weſt End of the ſaid Trench, facing the Bay, they are erecting a Fort which will command that Part of the Bay; and that they are told from Malaga, that Troops are ordered from all Parts of Spain into the Neighbourhood of St. Roche. But this muſt certainly be very abſurd, as well as groundleſs, for any to imagine, eſpecially ſince Gibraltar is not only confirmed to us by the Treaty of Utrecht, but is guaranteed to us, as thoſe in high Station have often aſſerted, by France, and even by the King of Spain himſelf; and as the Treaty of Seville, which thus ſecures our Poſſeſſions, and in other Reſpects ſo advantageous to the Nation, all the Engagements will no doubt be punctually performed.

Another Expreſs arrived Yeſterday from the Earl of Cheſterfield at Holland, on Affairs of Importance.

The Letters by the Poſt Yeſterday from Briſt adviſe, That ſome recruiting Officers were arriv there from Ireland, and beating up in that Neig bourho

bourhood for Volunteers, to fill up the Regiments on the Iriſh Eſtabliſhment, by an Order from the Secretary at War. They add, that Power, the Iriſhman, ſometime ago committed to Goal, on Suſpicion of diſperſing threatning Letters, and a Fellow taken at Bath, on Suſpicion of burning Mr. Packer's Houſe, are to be tried before the Hon. Mr. Scrope, Recorder of that City.

This Morning Anthony Cracherode Eſq; reſigned his Office of Sollicitor to the Treaſury, in order, as it is ſaid, to retire to his Seat in Wiltſhire; and it is believed he will be ſucceeded by Nicholas Paxton Eſq; his Deputy. The Rev. Mr. Gibſon, Son to the Biſhop of London, was laſt Week choſen a Fellow of Clarehall in Cambridge. Yeſterday the Rev. Dr. Penny kiſs'd his Majeſty's Hand, on being appointed Dean of Litchfield and Coventry, in Room of Dr. Walmſley deceaſed.

The Letters by the Holland Mail ſay, That the Court of Vienna having received certain Advices, that his Catholick Majeſty inſiſts more than ever, on the Introduction of 6000 Spaniards into Italy, the Levies for raiſing new Imperial Regiments of Horſe and Foot will begin after the Holy-days; That the Treaties betwixt the Emperor and the Helvetick Body are on the Point of being renewed; and that the Princes of the Empire are very intent upon repairing the Fortreſſes of Philipsburg and Kiel; and that the King of Poland is augmenting his Saxon Army to 42,000 Men.

The Authors of the *Craſtſman* are given to underſtand, in a Letter publiſhed to day, "That the "Perſon whom they threaten neither deſires their "Aſſiſtance, nor fears their Oppoſition; That "they have to do with a Man who knows he hath "not offended the Law, who knows himſelf a "faithful Servant to his Prince and to his Coun"try; and therefore he knows, as long as the "Laws and Liberties of his Country have their due "Force, and a juſt Prince fills the Throne, they "cannot ruin an honeſt Man, or clothe themſelves "with his Spoils: But if it were poſſible the vile "Arts they make uſe of could prevail on their Fel"low Subjects to work their own Deſtruction, he "then would think it his greateſt Glory to fall by "his Maſter's Side, and be buried in the Ruins of "the preſent Eſtabliſhment."

A great Cauſe came on laſt Friday before the Lord Chancellor, betwixt the Goldſmith Company and the Earl of Shelburn, touching an Eſtate in Ireland, which his Lordſhip bought of that Company for 14,300 l. and having paid 5000 l. in part, the Remainder was ſtopt upon ſome Diſpute: But after a long Hearing, 'twas decreed that his Lordſhip ſhould pay the other 9300 into the Bank; which was accordingly done the next Day.

*From the Daily Poſt-Boy, Decem.* 22.

*Hague, Dec.* 26. They talk much here of a Conſpiracy to betray th' important Fortreſs of Luxemburg into the Hands of the French; tho' ſome alledge it is only a Deſign to give Jealouſy to this State, and to perſwade us that the French have an Eye on that Key to the Empire and Netherlands, the better to introduce themſelves into the Barrier Towns and the other Fortreſſes there. This is the more probable, becauſe the French cannot yet be brought to conſent to a Plan of the Operations to ſecure the Empire and Netherlands from being attack'd. Whatever Streſs ſome lay on this Plot, we look upon it as romantick: Beſides, the People of Luxemburg are forbid to ſpeak or write of this Conſpiracy on ſevere Penalties.

Cardinal Fleury's proviſional Anſwer to the M. de Caſtelaer, is univerſally approved; and even the Imperialiſts cannot object to it, but pretend to hope the Spaniards will recede from a demand made in as *abſolute* a Manner, as if they had a Mind to *preſcribe Laws*.

The State of the War is the ſame as laſt Year; only the Council of State ſtrongly preſs, that the Navy may be retriev'd, which is quite run to Ruin. As, on the the other hand, a War is apparently unavoidable, ſome of the Seven Provinces are for augmenting our Forces; eſpecially, ſince 'tis ſaid the French will have next Spring 60,000 Men on the Rhine, beſides their Contingent for Italy, and excluſive of an Army they talk of forming *nearer Home*. This State will no more come into the Project of France for attacking the Emperor on the Side of the Netherlands, than the K. of G. Britain will conſent to their Operations on the Side of Germany; and the French ſeem to decline attacking the Emperor in Italy without the other: So that we cannot yet ſay how it will be.

*Rome, Nov.* 25. The Pope ſent lately a very large Sturgeon, as a Preſent, to the Chevalier de St. George, for whom, on all Occaſions, he expreſſes the higheſt Eſteem.

They talk variouſly of the weighty Affair the Pope has in View, and for the Succeſs whereof, all Prieſts are ordered to put up Prayers: And ſome even ſay, that it is an Affair of greater Moment, than either the Reconciliation of the Differences between this Court and that of Portugal, or even the Peace between the Emperor and Spain; their Diſcourſes ſquint to the North. The Cardinal

they say, are shuffling, and a new surprizing Game is to be play'd in Europe.

*London*, *Dec.* 22. Several Officers belonging to the Regiments at Gibraltar and Portmahon, are ordered furthwith to repair to their Posts.

We hear Brigadier Clayton, Lieutenant Governor of Gibraltar, is expected here 3 Weeks hence.

The Incendiaries go on with threatning Letters.

*Canterbury*, *Dec.* 16. Thursday last one Abraham Hayward was tried at our Sessions on two Indictments; one for *Sodomy*, and another for *Buggary*: He was acquitted of the first, but convicted of the last, and was sentenced to stand 3 Market-days at the Cattle-market, in the *Pillory!*

*From the French Amsterdam Gazette*, *Dec.* 29.

*Vienna*, *Dec.* 16. C. Lagnasco, the Polish Minister, arriven here Yesterday, to put the last Hand to an Accommodation of the Differences between this Court and that of Saxony.

*Hanover*, *Dec.* 15. They write from Golingnen, that a Prussian Corporal has been lately seized at that Place, for endeavouring to seduce some young Men into his Master's Service; and that a Process being actually drawing up against him, he is like to fare but indifferently.

*Hamburg*, *Dec.* 22. Our last Letters from Schwerin relate, that Duke Charles Leopold received the 10th Inst. a Courier from Moscow, with Dispatches from the Dutchess his Spouse, wherewith his Serene Highness seems extremely well satisfied. And 'tis even said, that they have all Hopes, by the Intercession of the Czarina, that his Affairs will soon take a favourable Turn; in which Case the 4000 Troops of Mecklemburg who are now in Courland will go into the Emperor's Service.

*Paris*, *Dec.* 22. Mr. Ramsay is chosen Governor to the Duke de Chateautierri, with a Salary of 3000 Livres per annum, besides his Pension of 2000 Livres settled on him for Life.

*Edinburgh*, *Dec.* 28. On Friday last one Thomas Henderson, a notorious Horse-stealer, was taken up by Warrant of the Rt. Hon. my Lord Justice-Clerk, and committed.

And on Saturday one John Stevenson was apprehended at Abbeyhill, on Suspicion of counterfeiting the Coin. He had about him when seiz'd, several base Shillings, *&c.* with proper Materials for carrying on this Manufacture.

Our Representatives in Parliament are setting out for London.

New Moon this Day about 11 before Noon.

Tomorrow (the 2d Day of the Moon) 'tis High Water at *Leith*, at 3 o'Clock, 51 Min. Wednesday, at 4, 39 Min. Thursday, at 5, 27 Min.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

¶¶ That the Good Ship *The GRIFFIN of Alloa*, about 60 Tons Burden, John Bauchop late Master, with her hail *Furniture* and *Apparelling*, conform to Inventary, is to be exposed to Sale by *publick voluntary* Roup, on Monday the Eighteenth Day of January 1731, betwixt Two and Four of the Clock after Noon, in the House of Mris. Muir on the Shore of Leith; where the *Inventary* of said Ship and *Conditions* of Roup may be seen, as also at the Shop of Mris. Bauchop, at the Foot of the Broad-wynd, Leith.

¶¶ That the annual *Silver Plate* of *L.* 30 Value, given by the Honourable Company of HUNTERS, is to be Run for on the Sands of Leith, upon Thursday the Thirty-first Day of December Instant, by any Hunting-Horse, Mare or Gelding that has been in the Custody of any of the Companions for Six Months, and never gain'd a Prize in Plate or Money to the Value of *L.* 30 sterl. The other Articles are to be seen in the Hands of Mr. *Morgan* in Leith, where the Horses must be entred Two Days before the Starting.

All the Companions are desir'd to meet at Mr. *Morgan's* about One of the Clock said 31st Day of December, to concert some Affairs of Importance.

*This by Order of the PRESES and COUNCIL.*

DAVID BAIRD *S. C. C.*

*Exchequer*, *Nov.* 19, 1730.

Notice is hereby given, by Order of the Right Honourable the BARONS OF EXCHEQUER, That they have Adjourned the Sale of the Arrears or Rests of the Estate of *William* late Earl of *Seaforth*, to the Third Day of February next 1731, in th'EXCHEQUER COURT, at Twelve of the Clock. Particulars whereof, and of the Terms of Sale, are to be seen in the Hands of the Deputy-Remembrancer. *W. OWLES.* D. R. R.

¶¶ The Trustees for the C[illegible] of Collonel JAMES RUTHVEN (*alias* JOHNSTON) o. GRAITNEY, having formerly given Notice, That they had paid off the preferable Creditors; and that they intended, at Candlemass next, to make a Dividend of the remaining Part of the Price of the Estate of *Graitney*, and the Rents uplifted out of the Estate of *Freeland*, to the Collonel's other Creditors; and for that Purpose, had intimate to the saids Creditors, to lodge their Grounds of Debt, with a just Accompt of what was truly due to each of them, in the Hands of *William Johnston* Writer in Edinburgh, Clerk to the said Trustees, 'twixt and the First of October last bypast: And whereas severals of the saids Creditors have delayed to lodge their Claims in Manner foresaid, they are hereby yet desir'd to give them in, so as they can depone on the Verity of the samen, to the said *William Johnston*, betwixt and the First Day of February next; with Certification, That the saids Trustees will proceed to make the Dividend, without Regard to such Creditors as shall neglect to give in their Claims.

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